(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) To give relief to the indigenous caprolactam industry, Government have reduced the customs duty on import of basic raw materials. In addition, an increase in customs duty on imported caprolactam has also been announced.

Strike by fact employees

1968. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees of FACT have decided to observe one day strike on the 15th March, 1993 to press for their demands;

(b) if so, the demands of the employees; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The recognised trade unions representing the workmen of FACT have issued a joint notice to the effect that they would be resorting to a one day strike on 15th March, 1993. The unions have listed 13 demands which are as follows:—

1. A CMD may be posted in FACT before 15.3.1993.

2. The customs duty of imported caprolactam may be restored to the original 80 per cent level, as an immediate measure.

3. The ex-refinery price of benzene may be reduced atleast by Rs. 1,600-KL from the current price of Rs. 13,112/KL.

4. Naptha, Furnace Oil/LSHS consumed for manufacture of Caprolactam may be priced at par with the price prevailing for fertilizer manufacture.

5. One time capital subsidy may be given to FACT to alleviate the unfavourable impact of customs duty towards the import of plant and equipment and the interest rates on long term loan and working capital Alternatively, the long term Government loan given for the caprolactam project may be treated as interest free.

6. Fertilizer subsidy should be restored. Gocernment policy is still to subsidise nitrogenous fertilizer. But in practice nitrogenous fertilizer in products like Factamphos (20:20) and DAP (18:46) are not getting any subsidy. This anomaly may be rectified.

7. The import of DAP may be canalised through existing fertilizer companies which have already established extensive marketing net work.

8. Southern Gas Grid may be implemented at the earliest, so that natural gas can be brought to Kerala either from Bombay High or from Nagapattanam Basin and thus the cost of production of Ammonia can be minimised.

9. Oil Exploration may be intensified at Cochin Offshore Basin, thereby natural gas will become locally availaple.

10. The proposed 900 TPD Ammonia Plant may be sanctioned without further delay so as to avoid the controversial Ammonia import and the storage tank at willingdon Island.

11. The Project Report submitted by FACT for the modernisation and extension of FACT Cochin Division may be approved.

12. FACT Management should desist from closing down Depots.

13. The Captrolactam import may be banned.

(c) Government are sympathetic to the needs of FACT and its staff and workers and have already extended certain concessions such as adjustment in the import duty on Caprolactam which will benefit the Company. However, the demands listed are far ranging and impinge on major policy issues which are not appropriately pressed for decision under the threat of a strike notice.

विज्ञापनों पर व्यय

1969. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव:** क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उर्वरक कम्पनियों ने विज्ञापन पर करोड़ों रुपये व्यय किए हैं,

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान इन कम्पनियों ने विज्ञापन पर कितना धन व्यय किया है?

रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एडुआर्डो फलेरियो) : (क) से (ग) उपलब्ध सूचना के अनुसार पिछले तीन वर्षों (1990–91, 1991–92 तथा अप्रैल, 1992 से जनवरी, 1993) के दौरान कुल 22 में से 20 प्रमुख उर्वरक उत्पादन कम्पनियों द्वारा विज्ञापन पर व्यय की गयी धनराशि लगभग 18.56 करोड़ रुपए की थी। तथापि, विज्ञापन पर किया गया कुल व्यय इन कम्पनियों के कुल कारोबार को देखते हुए नगण्य है।

Permitting of Units based on Imported Naphtha

1970. SHRI J. P. JAVALI:: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Petrochemical Complex Policy has been relaxed permitting units based on imported naphtha; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The overall demand-supply projections, availability of feed stock and other techno-economic aspects are the main considerations for grant of industrial approvals of setting up petrochemical complexes. The policy has not undergone any change in the recent past in so far as the use of imported naphtha is concerned.

(b) Does not arise.

Conversion of Capital loan given to Paradeep Phosphate Ltd. to equities share

1971. SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to convert capital loan given to Paradeep Phosphate Ltd. to equity share in view of financial crisis gripping the industry after the withdrawal of subsidy to D.A.P. fertiliser; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) No such decision has been taken.

Industrial Tragedies

1972. DR. RAMENDRA KUMAR YADAV RAVI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accidents caused due to bursting of gas cylinders and leakage of ammonia gas during the last three years, Industrial Unit wise;

(b) whether accidents have been investigated;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(d) the remedial steps taken proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS